No. 96-270

CLERK

SEP 18 1996

In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1995

AMCHEM PRODUCTS, INC., ET AL.

Petitioners

ν.

GEORGE WINDSOR, ET AL.,

Respondents

On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

SHEPARD A. HOFFMAN
Law Offices of Shepard A. Hoffman
Suite 901
301 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410)539-8404

Counsel for Respondents
Casimir Balonis, Margaret Balonis,
Shepard A. Hoffman, Esq.

QUESTION PRESENTED the parties to a putative class a

When the parties to a putative class action enter into a settlement of the class action before it is even filed, is it inappropriate for the district court to nevertheless apply the typicality and adequacy of representation requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) as well as the predominance and superiority requirements of Rule 23(b).

PARTIES TO THE PRECEDING AND RULE 29.6 STATEMENT

The Respondent Casimir Balonis is dying of the asbestos cancer known as mesothelioma, and is in the terminal stages of that disease. The Respondent Margaret Balonis is his wife. The Respondent Shepard A. Hoffman is their attorney. The other parties to the proceeding are set forth at App. 292(a)-317(a) of Petitioners' Appendix to Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

For the reasons set forth by Professor Susan P. Koniak in the law review article: FEASTING WHILE THE WIDOW WEEPS: GEORGINE V. AMCHEM PRODUCTS.

INC., 80 CORNELL L. REV. 1045 (1995), the Petition for Writ of Certiorari should not be granted. In addition, there is no more reason to grant certiorari in this case than there was as to the Third Circuit's decision in In re General Motors Corp. Pick-Up Truck Fuel Tank Prods. Liab. Litig., 55 F.3d 768 (3rd Cir.) cert. denied, 116 S. Ct. 88 (1995). Certiorari was denied in that case and should also be denied here.

CONCLUSION

Respondent Casimir Balonis, who is in the terminal stages of mesothelioma cancer caused by exposure to the Petitioners' asbestos products, on behalf of himself and other persons dying of asbestos cancer, respectfully request that the petition for a writ of certiorari be DENIED.

Respectfully submitted.

Shepard A. Hoffman Law Offices of Shepard A. Hoffman Suite 901 301 N. Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21201 [410] 539-8404 Counsel for Respondents

SEPTEMBER 16, 1996